

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

June 25, 2008

Reply To

Attn Of: ETPA-088 Ref: 04-063-BIA

Mr. Stanley Speaks Northwest Regional Director Bureau of Indian Affairs 911 Northeast 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue Portland, OR 97232

Dear Mr. Speaks:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the **Cowlitz Indian Tribe Trust Acquisition and Casino Project Final Environmental Impact Statement** (EIS) in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. Section 309, independent of NEPA, specifically directs EPA to review and comment in writing on the environmental impacts associated with all major federal actions. Under our policies and procedures we evaluate the document's adequacy in meeting NEPA requirements.

We appreciate the effort that you and your staff have undertaken to address the comments we provided on the draft EIS. It is clear that a significant amount of additional work has been performed since the draft EIS was issued for public comment and that a genuine effort was put into addressing the environmental concerns raised in our comments. The measures taken to obtain additional baseline data, and address water temperature, fecal coliform and wetland issues should assure that water and air quality standards will be met and biological resources will be protected.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at (206) 553-1601.

Sincerely,

/s/

Christine Reichgott, Manager NEPA Review Unit